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# Research on Online Safety Precaution Technology of a High-medium Pressure Gas Regulator

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In view of some of the characteristics of a high-medium pressure gas regulator, such as small fault samples, many fault types and complex fault features etc, in order to improve the accuracy of fault precaution in this paper, a fault diagnosis method based on the combination of the improved wavelet packet and pressure harmonic distortion rate is proposed. On the basis of the harmonic distortion rate of the outlet pressure and the energy value of each frequency band obtained by improved wavelet packet decomposition, the rules for fault data were summarized. Finally, a safety precaution model of the high-medium pressure gas regulator is established.

Keywords: high-medium pressure gas regulator, improved wavelet packet, harmonic distortion rate, safety precaution model

#### Introduction

The gas pressure regulator is the important component of gas transmission and distribution system, in view of the high operating pressure and complicated fault features, the stability and reliability of the gas regulator significantly influences the city gas supply. However, at present, the research on gas pressure regulator has mainly focused on the fault diagnosis of the gas pressure regulator (Mitsuhiro Toyoda and Kajiro Watanabe [1], 2006; Gao Shunli, Yang Meng [2], 2013), and the research literature on safety precaution technology of the gas pressure regulator is relatively scarce. Thus, it is very important to realize the fault precaution of gas pressure regulator and ensure the safe operation of equipment by objectively and accurately extracting operating performance characteristics of the regulator with timely mastery of the regulator operating state.

# **Algorithm Introduction**

### Wavelet packet algorithm

The wavelet packet, which is the extension of wavelet transform, can implement more detailed decomposition and reconstruction of the signal. Compared with the wavelet transform, the wavelet packet transform, which has a better resolution, can decompose the high frequency part. It can focus on the arbitrary details of the object and extract more detailed information that reflects the signal characteristics. As a result, it is widely used for fault diagnosis [3] [4]. The double dimension equation of the wavelet packet transform is shown below:

$$\begin{cases} u_{2n}(t) = \sqrt{2} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} h(k) u_n(2t - k) \\ u_{2n+1}(t) = \sqrt{2} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} g(k) u_n(2t - k) \end{cases}$$
 (1)

However, with the increase in the layer number of the

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wavelet packet decomposition, it will produce large amounts of information, and the complexity of signal analysis and processing will also increase. However, some frequency bands contain little information, and can even be ignored. For this purpose, this paper proposes an improved wavelet packet algorithm.

### Improved wavelet packet algorithm

Signals of different frequencies can be separated using wavelet packet decomposition; removing interference signals of some frequency bands and using wavelet packet reconstruction algorithm for signal reconstruction can achieve signal filtering and feature extraction [5]. In this paper, the original signal is first split into different frequency bands using wavelet packet decomposition, and then, using the correlation function analyzes the correlation between the signal of each frequency band and the original signal, the signal, which contains important information could be effectively extracted. The interference signal could be eliminated. The specific calculation steps are as follows:

- 1) Decompose the outlet pressure signal with the wavelet packet; then, rebuild wavelet packet decomposition coefficient.
- 2) Analyze the correlation between the reconstruction signal of each frequency band and original signal. Then, obtain a signal correlation coefficient K as the reference for frequency band selection. The correlation coefficient K is 0.1 in this paper.

$$K = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n} z(i) \cdot y(i)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{n} x^{2}(i) \cdot \sum_{k=0}^{n} y^{2}(i)}}$$
(2)

- 3) Extract the frequency band of K>0.1, and reconstruct the pressure signal
- 4) Use wavelet packet to decompose the reconstructed pressure signal, and calculate the energy value of each frequency band. The energy value is calculated as shown in the following formula.

$$E_{j,i} = \sqrt{\sum_{1}^{m} \left| d_{1}^{j,i} \right|^{2}} \tag{3}$$

Where is the wavelet packet coefficient for nodes (j, i),  $E_{i,i}$  is the energy value for nodes (j, i).

5) Use the energy value of each sub band as the element to construct the feature vector.

### Harmonic distortion rate

The harmonic distortion rate (THD), which is a performance parameter in the electrical engineering discipline, represents the distortion degree of the actual output waveform compared with the sinusoidal waveform. In this paper, for the first time, it is used as an outlet pressure stability indicator of the gas pressure regulator. For a smaller waveform distortion rate, the outlet pressure is more stable. The calculation formula is as follows:

$$THD = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} U_n^2}}{U_1} \tag{4}$$

Where THD is the total pressure distortion rate;  $U_n$  is the effective value of the outlet pressure harmonic component; and  $U_1$  the set pressure value

To further quantify the influence of high or low frequency harmonic components on the outlet pressure fluctuation, the low frequency harmonic distortion rate  $(THD_L)$  and high frequency harmonic distortion rate  $(THD_H)$  are defined, respectively. The calculation method is the same as above.

# Fault feature extraction and analysis of a high-medium pressure gas regulator

Outlet pressure data of the high-medium pressure gas regulator operating in the SCADA system of Beijing Gas Group whose judgment cycle is from 00:00 to 23:55. The pressure regulator stations were recorded at 5-minute intervals to obtain 288 sets of pressure data every day. According to the Fourier transform and the improved wavelet packet decomposition, the pressure harmonic distortion rate and energy values of different frequency bands were obtained as the basis for judging the running state of the gas pressure regulator.

In this paper, the operating states of the high-medium pressure gas regulator were divided into the following four categories: normal, surge, low-use gas peaks with high outlet pressure and high-use gas peaks with low outlet pressure. According to the levels of different fault types, there are two warning levels, which are referred to as the warning and alarm. The typical faults of gas pressure regulators were analyzed and described in the following section.

# Normal characteristics of the gas pressure regulator

To make a better comparison, the outlet pressure data of station A are first analyzed, and their operational pressures are stable from January 1st, 2015 to 31th, Figure 1 is a three-dimensional chart of the outlet pressure for station A, the X-axis represents the date, Y-axis represents the 288 data points corresponding to the dates, and Z-axis is the outlet pressures. Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, respectively show the trend line charts of the energy value of each frequency band and the pressure harmonic distortion rate.

As shown in Figure 1, the outlet pressure for station A nearly ranges from 97 to 99 kPa, and there is pressure fluctuation within 0.5 kPa. The operating state of the gas pressure regulator is ideal, and the stabilizing precision

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of the outlet pressure is high. As observed from Figures 2 and 3, each component of the energy values is relatively small, E1 is not more than 7, and the remaining components are not more than 1. The outlet pressure harmonic distortion rate remains within 0.5%.

## Fault characteristics with the surge

Surge is a common fault for a gas pressure regulator. There are many reasons for surge, such as incorrect installation position of the signal pipe, low downstream gas consumption, the sensitive command device and more. A long-term surge will seriously reduce the lives of internal components of the gas pressure regulator, especially for

the film and spring. The external performance of the surge involves violent fluctuation of the outlet pressure.

Figure 4 is a three-dimensional chart of the outlet pressure for station B, and their outlet pressures are obtained from February 1st to 28th. Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, respectively, show the trend line charts of energy value of each frequency band and the pressure harmonic distortion rate.

As shown in Figures 4 and 6, the outlet pressure for station B ranges from 116 to 120 kPa, the outlet pressure fluctuation is approximately 1.2 kPa, the total pressure harmonic distortion rate is approximately 1%,  $THD_H$  increases significantly, which is compared to station A. As observed from Figure 5, compared to station A, the

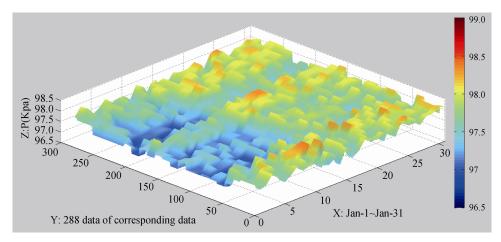


Fig. 1 Three-dimensional outlet pressure chart

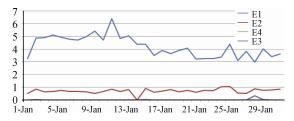


Fig. 2 Energy value trend line chart



Fig. 3 Waveform distortion rate trend line chart

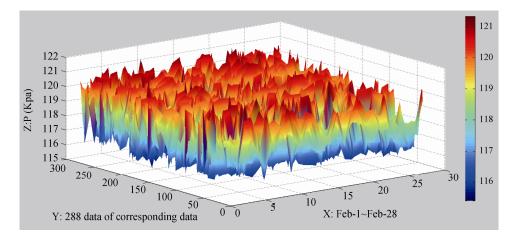


Fig. 4 Three-dimensional outlet pressure chart

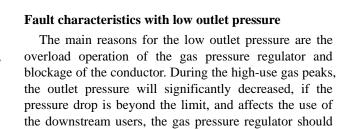
over-all energy value increases significantly. Among them, E1 ranges between 16 and 23, E2 ranges between 5 and 10, E4 and E3 also increase significantly. The mean value of E2~ E4 is up to 12.

# Fault characteristics with high outlet pressure

Due to the difference in gas quality, gas more or less contains some gas impurities. These impurities wear pressure regulator valve port pads or the valve barrel, and make regulator valve port have close lax problem. As a result, the outlet pressure will be higher than the set value, especially it occurs during the low-use gas peaks.

Figure 7 is a three-dimensional chart of the outlet pressure for station C, and their outlet pressures are obtained from February 1st to 28th. Figs. 8 and 9, respectively, show the trend line charts of energy value of each frequency band and the pressure harmonic distortion rate.

As shown in Figure 7, the outlet pressure for station D ranges from 97 to 104 kPa, and the outlet pressure for



low-use gas peaks which occurs in the early morning,

reaches 103 kPa. The outlet pressure during low-use gas

peaks is beyond the set pressure value by 3 kPa, and the

fluctuation is more than average. As shown in Figs 8 and 9, E1 improves greatly, and the average value reaches 21.

THD<sub>L</sub> have a great value and the low-frequency pressure fluctuating is the main reason for outlet pressure fluctuation.

Figure 10 is a three-dimensional chart of the outlet pressure for station D, and their outlet pressures were obtained from February 1st to 28th. Fig. 11 and Fig. 12,

be repaired in time.

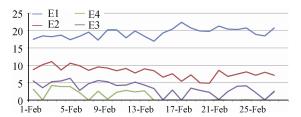


Fig. 5 Energy value trend line chart

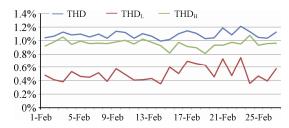


Fig. 6 Waveform distortion rate trend line chart

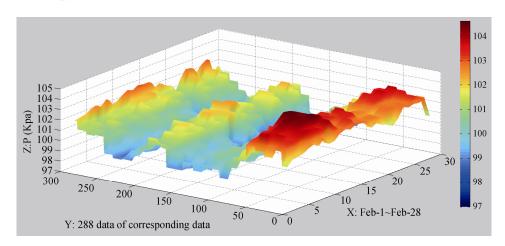


Fig. 7 Three-dimensional outlet pressure chart



Fig. 8 Energy value trend line chart

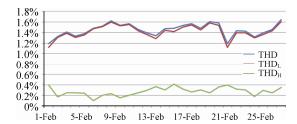


Fig. 9 Waveform distortion rate trend line chart

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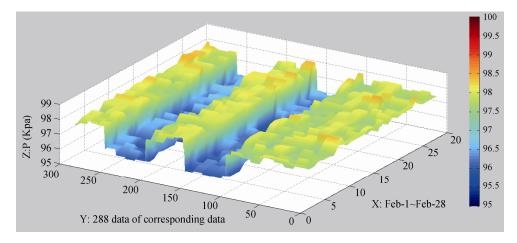


Fig. 10 Three-dimensional outlet pressure chart

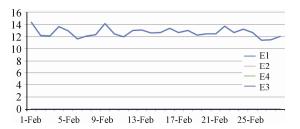


Fig. 11 Energy value trend line chart

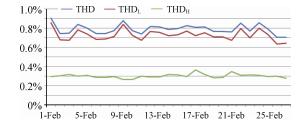


Fig. 12 Waveform distortion rate trend line chart

respectively, show the trend line charts of energy value of each frequency band and the pressure harmonic distortion rate.

As shown in Figure 10, the outlet pressure for station D ranges from 95 to 99 kPa, and the outlet pressure value only reaches 96 kPa during high-use gas peaks. The pressure is not more than the set pressure by 2 kPa. However, the pressure fluctuating is much more than average. As observed from Figures 11 and 12, E1 reaches 13, the remaining ones are in the low level. Compared to station A, THD has a greater improvement, especially THD<sub>L</sub>, in a high level.

# Conclusions

Through the analysis of fault characteristics of different fault types, the main conclusions are as follows:

- 1) The four energy values are obtained by improved wavelet packet decomposition, and E1 represents the low-frequency fault of the system (high or low outlet pressure), the latter three items (E2~E4) represent high-frequency fault of the system (surge).
- 2) The pressure harmonic distortion rate (THD) reflects the stable performance of the gas pressure regulator.  $THD_L$  represents the affection of the low-frequency fault on the outlet pressure fluctuation.  $THD_H$  represents the affection of high-frequency fault on the outlet pressure

fluctuation.

3) When the data acquisition occurs at 5-minute intervals and the set outlet pressure is 1MPa, the safety precaution model is shown as in the following Table 1.

As shown in Table 1, the safety precaution model of gas peaks with high or low outlet pressure is completely consistent. To further identify the low-frequency fault types, further judgments should be made by the daily pressure distribution.

4) This method is equally applicable to fault diagnosis and safety precautions of other level outlet pressures of the gas pressure regulator. However, according to the differences in the outlet pressure level, the safety precaution model should properly be adjusted.

**Table 1** Gas pressure regulator safety precaution model

| Gas regulator state  | Warning                                                   | Alarm                                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Surge                | $5 < \sum_{i=2}^{4} E_i \le 20$ $0.8\% < THD_H \le 1.4\%$ | $20 < \sum_{i=2}^{4} E_i$ $1.4\% < THD_H$ |
| High outlet pressure | $12 < E_1 \le 25$ $0.7\% < THD_L \le 1.8\%$               | $25 < E_1 \\ 1.8\% < THD_L$               |
| Low outlet pressure  | $12 < E_1 \le 25$<br>$0.7\% < THD_L \le 1.8\%$            | $25 < E_1 \\ 1.8\% < THD_L$               |

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